National Road Safety Committee

14 September 2023

Attendees (in no particular order):

- Eric Bush, Chief Officer Ministry PAHI – *Chair*
- Franz Manderson, Deputy Governor
- Tristan Hydes, Deputy Chief Officer Ministry PAHI
- Kurt Walton, Deputy-Commissioner RCIPS
- Michael Ebanks, Chief Officer Home Affairs
- Oneisha Richards, Director Department of Communications
- Cheryl Neblett, First Legislative Council of Legislative Drafting Department
- Sean Vasquez, Acting Director Department for Public Safety and Communications
- Edward Howard, Director NRA
- Marion Pandohie, Transportation Planner/ Information Manager NRA
- David Dixon, Director DVDL
- Durk Banks, Director Public Transport Union
- Anne Kensington-Lott, Head of Communications Ministry PAHI
- Kee Sims, Senior Policy Advisor Ministry PAHI

1. Introduction

CO Bush (Chair) opened the meeting by welcoming all attendees to the first National Road Safety Committee meeting. He thanked them for their time to attend and emphasised the importance of the group. He reminded everyone about the acceptance of the National Road Safety Strategy by Cabinet in July, and that there was the political will and momentum to take it forward. He stressed that the Committee has one singular focus at this stage and that is to reduce (even eliminate) road fatalities. He acknowledged that there were many more safety issues on Cayman roads, but that he wanted this Committee to focus on fatalities specifically. He also referred to the level of participation in those meetings, and that it was for a reason that only Heads of Departments and Chief Officers were expected to attend as the Committee is a decision-making Committee.

He said that the Deputy Governor would be joining the meeting later on to express his support for the Committee and its objectives. He asked the attendees to introduce themselves. They also expressed support for the Committee and its purpose. The RCIPS Deputy-Commissioner voiced his concerns about the number or road fatalities and that fifteen were recorded in 2022. He expressed his full support for the efforts of the group. The Chair congratulated Deputy-Commissioner Walton on becoming the new Commissioner, and others echoed that.

2. TORs, review and approval

The SPA of the Ministry shared the TORs on the large screen and talked through the Terms of Reference (TOR) for the Committee, followed by the TOR for the sub-committees. Committee members were actively engaged, asked questions and provided some minor comments on the text.

3. The 4 E's sub-committees

A main point of feedback was the way that the sub-committee would liaise with private sector entities. It was recognised that they should be consulted, but it was agreed that it should be the responsibility of the sub-committees to decide which private sector entities to consult. The appendices of the TOR will include a list of entities that the sub-committees can choose from.

The Chair emphasised that the TORs are 'living documents' and that, as the work of the Committee and sub-committees is ongoing, they can be changed if the need arises.

The members looked at the organisation chart and provided input on the government entities that should sit within each sub-committee.

- **ACTION 1:** SPA Sims to update the TORs for the Committee, sub-committees, and the organisation chart based on the feedback received by the members, and send it back to the Committee members for their approval.

The Chair pointed out that the role of the Champions of each of the sub-committees cannot be underestimated. He stressed their important role and that, especially in the first few months, they will be doing the heavy lifting. This was acknowledged by the members.

4. Strategy implementation

The members assessed a spreadsheet, kindly provided by the NRA, with an overview of the short, medium and long-term objectives/action points described in the NRSS. It was agreed that this will be a very helpful tool to identify the priorities for each of the 4 E's sub-committees.

The Chair said that this work will be taken forward by the sub-committees. He then asked the members about analyses of road fatalities in recent years. Some work had been done, but not in the round. In order to build an implementation strategy, it is essential to understand the underlying risks and draw out themes and trends. Others, including the NRA, agreed that the strategy should be data driven.

There was some discussion on the data collection that is already being carried out, what kind of data would be useful, the data that is shared by the private sector (such as insurance companies) and certain initiatives that will help generate useful data such as the black box that is required in vehicles to analyse accidents.

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The Chair brought the conversation back to the main concern which is that more and better data is needed to make informed decisions on the implementation priorities. This data would include information on conditions, time, how, where, type of vehicle etc. He therefore asked the members to come together again in two weeks' time for a meeting to focus on data collection and drawing out what the key risks/themes are. This would give insight into the priority areas that each of the 4 E's sub-committees should be focusing on.

It was recognised that an effective public campaign was essential. The Deputy Governor applauded the Department of Communications for its work on the COVID campaign and asked Ms Richards, Director of the Department, whether they would be able to come up with something similar. Ms Richards responded that she would need to see the results of the data research before she was able to propose a campaign. Ms Richards said that, for the next meeting, she would be able to share examples of campaigns that were initiated at a local, regional and international level by entities with the same goal.

- **ACTION 3:** At the next meeting, Ms Richards to present examples of local, regional and international campaigns by entities with the same goal.

The Chair asked the group should work together to undertake the initial data analysis. He said it would be ideal if an analysis could be made of data collected over the last seven years, but that he would be satisfied with data from the last three years, as a minimum. He also reminded the members to narrow it down to fatalities only. He asked them to, by the next Committee meeting, provide reports with data on road fatalities (ideally from the last 7 years).

- **ACTION 4:** By the next Committee meeting, the members to provide reports with data on road fatalities (ideally from the last 7 years).

Mr Dixon, DVDL Director, mentioned some great initiatives that are being undertaken such as the school safety campaigns. The Chair said that the exercise by the Committee will not undermine any work that is already in the pipeline, and that it will be for the sub-committees to assess the initiatives that are already ongoing. The Champions should then bring it back to the centre.

Some initiatives were shelved, probably due to budget constraints. Mr Hydes said that some action points may have budget implications and that Cabinet would need to approve those. However, in light of the Cabinet approval obtained, there was less concern that there wouldn't be enough money available to run projects related to the NRSS.

There was a short discussion on the management of the information collected and the Chair explained that SPA Sims, as the Secretariat of the Committee, would keep a record.

- **ACTION 5:** SPA Sims to send an invitation to the Committee for the next meeting which will be held on Wednesday 27 September at the Ministry PAHI Conference Room, starting at 10am until 12pm.

- **ACTION 6:** By the next Committee meeting (27 September) the Champions to:

    1) Form and meet with their respective sub-committees
    2) Agree on the TORs of the sub-committees

The Chair thanked all Committee members for their time and efforts and extended a special thanks to the Deputy Governor for his support.

Action Items:

	Description	**Status**	**Comments**
Action 1	SPA Sims to update the TORs for the Committee, sub-committees, and the organisation chart based on the feedback received by the members, and send it back to the Committee members for their approval.		
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Action 3	At the next meeting, Ms Richards to present examples of local, regional and international campaigns by entities with the same goal.		
Action 4	By the next Committee meeting, the members to provide reports with data on road fatalities (ideally from the last 7 years).		

Action 5	SPA Sims to send an invitation to the Committee for the next meeting which will be held on Wednesday 27 September at the Ministry PAHI Conference Room, starting at 10am until 12pm.		
Action 7	By the next Committee meeting (27 September) the Champions to: 1) Form and meet with their respective sub-committees 2) Agree on the TORs of the sub-committees		